ARTICLES

To be Enquired of within the

Diocese of Carlile,

IN THE

Primary Visitation

OF THE

Right Reverend Father in God,

WILLIAM,

Lord Bishop of

CARLILE,

An. Dom. 1704,

The Second Year of his CONSECRATION.

LONDON:
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The Tenour of the Oath to be administer'd to the CHURCH-WARDENS.

YOU shall, upon due consideration of the Articles given you in Charge, true Presentment make of all such Defaults and Offences as you know to be Presentable by the Ecclesiastical Laws of this Realm.

So help you God.

TO MY
Reverend Brethren
OF THE
CLERGY.

I *Need not acquaint any of you that the Miniſters of your Reſpective Pariſhes* ought *to preſent ſome things cogniſable in this Viſitation: nor, that they* may *preſent every thing that is ſo. See* Can. 113, 114. *What I ſhall now chiefly hope for from you, is, That you will be ſo juſt to your ſelves and Succeſſors, as to take care that full and perfect Terriers be given in of the preſent Glebe-Lands, Tithes, and other Endowments, of your ſeveral Livings, according to ſuch Inſtructions as your Churchwardens have under the ſecond Title of theſe Articles. I recommend this the more heartily to you, becauſe I do not find many of theſe in our Regiſtry; and the few that we have, are very lame and imperfect. My beſt Endeavours ſhall not be wanting*

towards the better Security of whatever of that kind is now brought in; that Posterity may not have the same reasonable Occasions of Complaint, in this Matter, that we now seem to have.

'Tis yet less necessary to tell you, that I have all the Encouragement in the World to hope that the following Articles will be duely consider'd; and the Presentments thereupon impartial and honest. The Church-wardens know that I have look'd into every Parish-Church in the Diocese, since my coming to the See; and the Preparations I found (almost every where) for the speedy Regulating of what was amiss, are very comfortable Inducements to believe that whatever I then observ'd to be out of Order, is either already in a good condition, or in a great forwardness towards it. It will be an equal surprize and trouble to me, to find that any Defect or Irregularity has escaped their *Notice, which laid open to* mine; *and that their Enquiries, in the Duties of their Office and under the Obligation of a solemn Oath, has been less diligent and effectual than I reasonably hoped they would have been.*

W. CARLIOL.

ARTICLES
OF
VISITATION and ENQUIRY,
Within the DIOCESE of *CARLILE.*

TIT. I.

Concerning Churches and Chappels; with the Ornaments and Furniture belonging to them.

1. IS the Fabrick of your Church (or Chappel) kept in good Repair, within and without; the Roof being well cover'd, the Bells good and sound, the Windows glaz'd, the Floors paved, the Walls plaister'd, and the Seats fast and conveniently placed?

2. Have you a *Font* of Stone, standing in a convenient place towards the lower end of the Church, with a decent Cover to it, for the Administration of Baptism? Is there also a Communion-Table fitly placed and secured from Abuses, cover'd with a fair Carpet of Silk or other decent Stuff, in time of Divine Service; and with a fair Linnen Cloth, at the time of the Administring the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper? What Cup, Chalice, Paten or Flagons, have you thereunto belonging?

3. Is there a convenient Seat for the Miniſter to read Divine Service in; and a Pulpit, with a proper Cloth and Cuſhion for the ſame? Have any Pews or Seats been erected by any private perſon, without leave from the Ordinary?

4. Have you a large *Engliſh* Bible of the laſt Tranſlation, with the Book of Common-Prayer, well bound? Have you the Book of Homilies publiſh'd by Authority, the Book of Canons, a Table of the Degrees allow'd and prohibited in Matrimony, the Thirty-nine Articles of the Church of *England*, and Biſhop *Jewel*'s Works? Or, have any of theſe been lately loſt and embezill'd?

5. Have you a Regiſter-Book of Parchment, for all thoſe that are Chriſtened, Marry'd and Bury'd, in your Pariſh? Is the Tranſcript thereof yearly and duely, within one Month after the 25th day of *March*, given into the Biſhop's Regiſtry? Have you likewiſe a Paper-Book, wherein the Names of all Strangers that preach or officiate in your Church are recorded; and another like Book for the Church-wardens Accounts?

6. Have you a fair Surplice, for the Miniſter to wear at all times of his publick Miniſtration, provided and duely waſhed at the Charge of the Pariſh?

7. Have you a good ſtrong Cheſt, with three Locks and Keys, for the Alms of the Congregation; and another for the Books and Ornaments of the Church?

8. Have you a Bier, with a Herſe-Cloth, for the decent Burial of the Dead?

TIT.

Tit. II.

Concerning the Church-yard, Houſes, Glebes, Tithes, and other Poſſeſſions of the Church.

1. IS your Church-yard ſufficiently fenced with Walls, Pales, or Rails; and decently kept from all Annoyance and Encroachments? Are the Trees (if any) therein carefully preſerv'd? Have any Doors been made into it, without the Conſent and Licenſe of the Ordinary?

2. Is your Miniſter's Manſion-houſe, with all Out-houſes thereto belonging, kept in good and ſufficient Repair? Have any of them been lately pull'd down or defaced? Have any Encroach'd upon the Lands thereto belonging; or cut down any Trees growing thereon?

3. Have you a perfect Terrier of all the Glebe-Lands, Gardens, Orchards and Tenements, belonging to your Parſonage or Vicarage; as alſo a particular Liſt of ſuch Penſions, Tithes, Augmentations by Biſhops or Deans and Chapters, and all other yearly Profits, as are any way belonging thereunto? Is a true Copy of ſuch Liſt and Terrier now tranſmitted into the Biſhop's Regiſtry?

4. Have any of the antient Glebe-Lands of your Pariſh been lately loſt, or alienated by Sale or Exchange, without Licenſe from the Ordinary, and free Conſent of the Incumbent? Are any of them, as you believe, now occupy'd by the Patron or his Aſſignees?

5. Are there any Preſcriptions or Compoſitions for Tithes pretended or claimed by any of the Pariſhioners, which you think are not truly and really ſuch, nor warrantable by Law?

6. Have

6. Have you any Church-Stock? In whoſe hands is it? To what Uſes was it given? And, is it now employed to the ſame Uſes? If not, in whom is the Fault?

TIT. III.

Enquiries concerning the Parſon, Vicar or Curate.

1. IS your Miniſter Epiſcopally ordain'd, according to the Laws of the Church and Realm of *England*? Is he reported or ſuſpected to have obtained his Orders or Benefice by any *Simoniacal* Compact? Is he legally Inſtituted and Inducted into his Living; and did he, within two Months after his Induction, publicly read in the Church, during the time of Divine Service, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion eſtabliſh'd in *England*, declaring his Aſſent thereunto? Hath he declared his unfeigned Aſſent and Conſent to the uſe of all things contained in the Book of Common-Prayer, and read the Ordinary's Certificate of his Subſcription to the Declaration, according to the Act of Uniformity?

2. Hath he been Licenſed to Preach by the Archbiſhop of this Province, the Biſhop of the Diocele, or one of the Univerſities of this Realm? Doth he diligently read Divine Service, and preach every Lord's day, unleſs hinder'd by Sickneſs or reaſonable Abſence; and, in ſuch Caſes, doth he procure ſome other Lawful Miniſter to perform thoſe and other Miniſterial Duties? Doth he, before his Sermon, pray according to the Form preſcribed in the 55th Canon?

3. Doth he in the Morning and Evening-Service, in the Adminiſtration of the Sacraments, and all other Religious Offices appointed by the Church, uſe the reſpective Forms

in the Book of Common-Prayer, without adding, altering, or diminiſhing, upon any pretence; together with all thoſe Rites and Ceremonies that are enjoin'd by the Rubrick? And, doth he conſtantly make uſe of the Surplice, when he reads Divine Service, or adminiſters the Sacraments?

4. Doth he diligently Catechiſe the Youth of the Pariſh, every Sunday and Holiday, before Evening-Service? Doth he prepare and procure them (as occaſion is offer'd) to be Confirm'd by the Biſhop? And, doth he confer with, and endeavour to reclaim, all Popiſh Recuſants and Sectaries in your Pariſh, to the true (eſtabliſh'd) Religion?

5. Is he a Perſon of Sober, Unblameable and Exemplary Life, being Grave, Modeſt and Regular in his Converſation and Apparel? Or, on the contrary, is his Carriage any way diſorderly or ſcandalous; and unbecoming his Calling and Charge?

6. Is he ready to viſit the Sick? Doth he examine, admoniſh, exhort, comfort and abſolve, according to the Order preſcribed? Hath he revealed what any have confeſs'd for the unburthening of their Conſciences and receiving ſpiritual Conſolation?

7. Doth he Baptize Infants in danger of Death, if deſired? Have thoſe Children which have been baptized in private Houſes by the Miniſter of the Pariſh, afterwards been brought into the Church; and did the Miniſter there certify the Congregation, That the true Form of Baptiſm was by him privately before uſed? Or, if any Children in the Pariſh have been baptized privately by any other Lawful Miniſter, have thoſe Children been brought to your Church? And, hath the Miniſter of the Pariſh there examin'd, Whether ſuch Children were lawfully baptized or no?

8. Doth your Minister refuse to give the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to any in the Parish; and for what Cause? Or, doth he give it to any that are scandalous and notorious Sinners; to persons not well instructed in their Faith; or to any that are Excommunicate? Doth he duely administer that blessed Sacrament three times every year at the least, whereof *Easter* is one, and give due Warning before?

9. Doth he Marry any persons in private Houses; or such as are under the Age of 21 Years, not having the Consent of their Parents or Guardians? Hath he marry'd any without Banns first publish'd three several Sundays or Holidays in the Church, or at prohibited Times, without License?

10. Doth he duely bid and observe Holidays and Fasts, as appointed? Are the Fifth of *November*, the Thirtieth of *January*, and the Twenty-ninth of *May*, and all Days appointed by Authority for Fasting and Humiliation duely observ'd? Doth he, the first day of *Lent*, read the Commination, and proper Forms of Prayer; the Litany on *Wednesdays* and *Fridays* throughout the Year; and rightly observe the Ember and Rogation-Weeks, by Prayer and Perambulation?

11. Is your Minister constantly resident amongst you? Hath he a Curate to assist him in his Absence or Presence? Is that Curate in Holy Orders, and hath he a License from the Bishop to serve the said Cure? Doth he behave himself soberly, discreetly, and conformably to the Church of *England*? Hath he a sufficient Salary or Stipend; and, is it duely paid? Do any, not being in Orders, or not duely Licensed, presume to Preach or to read public Prayers in the

12. Doth your Minister every six Months publicly denounce all such as continue under the Sentence of Excommunication, not seeking to be absolved? Have any Excommunicate Persons been received into the Church, without a Certificate of their Absolution from the Ordinary; or any, so dying, been bury'd with Christian Burial?

Tit. IV.

Concerning the Parishioners.

1. ARE there any in your Parish who are known or reputed Hereticks or Schismaticks, refusing Communion with the Church of *England*; or, any open Impugners of the Establish'd Religion, of the Regal Supremacy, or of any of the Laws, Rites and Ceremonies, Ecclesiastical?

2. Are there any of your Parishioners who lie under a common Fame or vehement suspition of Adultery, Fornication or Incest? Are there any common Drunkards, Swearers, or Blasphemers of God's holy Name and Word? Are there any Excommunicate persons, or any who countenance or keep company with them?

3. Do any of your Parish profane the Lord's Day, by neglecting of public and holy Duties; or by doing the Works of their ordinary Callings; or using unlawful Recreations; or permitting their Children and Servants so to do? Do they duely observe other Holidays, Festivals and Fasts, appointed by Authority?

4. Do all those who inhabit in your Parish resort to your Church (or Chappel) and continue there during Divine Service, Sermon, and other holy Duties, with Reverence;

Order, and Decency? Or, have any occasion'd Riot, Clamour or Fighting, in the Church or Church-yard? Are there any Recusants, convicted Papists, Quakers, Anabaptists or other Sectaries, in your Parish? Do they, or any of them, keep any School-master in their Houses; who comes not to Church, to hear Divine Service and receive the Communion?

5. Are there any in your Parish who refuse to have their Infant-Children Baptized by your Minister? Or, do they keep them unbaptiz'd longer than the Church allows? And what Infants or more aged Persons are there in your Parish unbaptized?

6. Do all your Housholders duely send their Children, Apprentices and Servants, to be catechiz'd? And, do they take care (when occasion is offer'd) to have them Confirm'd by the Bishop?

7. Is there any person in your Parish (so Confirmed and Instructed, and being sixteen years of Age) who refuses to receive the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, three times in the year? Do all receive this sacred Mystery with that outward Gesture, apparent Humility and Reverence, which becomes them; meekly kneeling upon their Knees, according to the Order and Custom of the Church?

8. Are there any in your Parish who are known or suspected to be unlawfully married, contrary to the Laws of God and this Church; or within the Degrees of Consanguinity or Affinity prohibited? Are there any who being lawfully married (and never legally Divorced) do yet live asunder? Or, any who, being lawfully divorced, do live together? Or, being separated for Adultery, have afterwards intermarryd with any other, during the Life of their first Consort?

9. Are there any Women in your Parish, who, after their safe Delivery from Child-birth, refuse to make their humble and public Thanksgiving to God, according to the Appointment of the Church?

10. Are there any of your Parishioners who refuse to pay their *Easter*-Offerings and other Dues to your Minister; or, to pay the Rates assessed on them for the Repairs and Provisions of the Church?

12. Do any refuse to bury their Dead according to the Rites of the Church of *England*? Are there any Wills or Testaments of any Persons lately deceas'd in your Parish, that are not yet proved before a Lawful Judge? Or, do you know or hear of any Goods administer'd without a due Grant from the Ordinary?

TIT. V.

Concerning Church-Officers.

1. ARE the Church-wardens of your Parish chosen yearly in *Easter*-Week, by the joint Advice and Consent of your Minister and Parishioners; or one of them by the Minister, and the other by the Parishioners? Have the last and former Church-wardens provided a sufficient Quantity of fine white Bread, and of good and wholsome Wine, against every Communion noticed by the Minister? Have they given up their just Accounts to the next succeeding in that Office; together with all public Money resting in their hands, and other Things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

2. Have

2. Have you a Pariſh-Clerk, aged 20 years at leaſt, who is of a ſober Life and good Report? Is he choſen by the Miniſter, and of good Abilities in Reading, Writing, and Singing, as a Clerk? Are his Wages duely pay'd him, or, who with-holdeth the ſame, or any part thereof?

3. Doth your Clerk or Sexton take care of your Church, to keep it lock'd and clean, to open the Doors and ring the Bells in due time, to call the Pariſhioners to the Worſhip of God? Doth he alſo admoniſh them, by tolling of a Paſſing Bell for any that are dying, to meditate of their own Death, and to recommend their Neighbours weak condition to the Mercy of God?

TIT. VI.

Concerning Alms-houſes, Schools and Schoolmaſters, Phyſitians, Chyrurgeons and Midwives.

1. IS there any Hoſpital, Alms-houſe, or Free-School, founded in your Pariſh? Who were the Founders, or are now Patrons thereof? Are they ſo govern'd and order'd in the Uſe and Revenue as the Founders appointed, and according to the Ordinances and Statutes which have been made concerning the ſame?

2. Is your School-maſter of an Honeſt, Sober and Religious Converſation? Is he Licenſed by the Biſhop? Hath he Subſcribed the Articles, as requir'd by the 36th and 77th Canons; and the Declaration ſpecify'd in the Act of Uniformity, ſo far as now in force? Doth he inſtruct his Scholars in the Catechiſm and Religion of the Church of

England?

England? Doth he conſtantly bring his Scholars to hear Sermons in the Church, taking care that they there behave themſelves quietly and ſoberly? And, doth he (at ſome convenient time, after their return from Church, examine and enquire what they can ſeverally remember of ſuch Sermons?

3. Do any in your Pariſh practiſe Phyſic, Chirurgery, or Midwifery, without Licenſe from the Ordinary?

TIT. VII.

Concerning Eccleſiaſtical Court-Officers.

1. ARE there any that exerciſe Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction within this Dioceſe, who take and receive extraordinary Fees for any Cauſe or Act of Court; or who have any ways offended againſt the Laws and Canons? Have Abuſes or Offences been preſented by the Churchwardens; and are any ſuch Offences, being preſented, ſuppreſſed or left unpuniſh'd?

2. What Puniſhment for any ſuch Crimes or Offences have been commuted and exchanged into a pecuniary Mulct or Sum of Money by any Eccleſiaſtical Judge, exerciſing Juriſdiction within this Dioceſe? What was the Sum of Money by them or any of them ſo received and taken? And, to what uſes was the ſame beſtow'd?

3. Have any Apparitors neglected their Duty; or taken any Reward for the concealing of any Offence, or the avoiding of the Puniſhment of the Offenders? Do they ſummon any, without a Citation firſt had from the Court?